

Deschutes National Forest

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Contact: Terra Kemper, Discover Your Northwest, 541-419-6727 December 12, 2011

Annual Mt. Bachelor Snowshoe Tours to Begin Public Invited to Enjoy Natural History Tours

BEND – In mid-December, the Forest Service, Mt. Bachelor Ski Area, and Discover Your Northwest will begin offering their annual snowshoe tours at the ski resort's West Village.

As snow conditions allow, all weekends and holidays, December 17 through April 1, the Deschutes National Forest, in association with Mt. Bachelor and Discover Your Northwest, will conduct FREE snowshoe tours.

In addition to weekends, tours will be led every day except Christmas and New Year's Day, from Dec. 17 through Jan. 2. Tours will be led on Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day.

When and where: Two tours will be offered at 10:00 am and 1:30 pm. Tour groups will meet between the Mt. Bachelor Guest Services and Ski and Sport buildings at the U.S. Forest Service snowshoe hut.

Snowshoes will be provided and prior experience is not necessary. Participants in the public tours should be at least 10-years-old, wear warm boots, and warm winter clothing. Tours last approximately 90 minutes.

Roving Rangers: Be on the lookout for Forest Service Interpretive Rangers on the Nordic and alpine trails, as well as the lodges on the mountain. They are available to answer questions.

Group Tours: Group tours are also available during the week free of charge and can be arranged for schools, youth and other organized groups. Reservations are required.

More information: Call the Snowshoe Hotline (541) 383-4055 for up-to-date tour information. Contact the Deschutes National Forest at (541) 383-4000 for more detailed information not offered on the hotline, or to schedule a group tour. Mt. Bachelor and Discover Your Northwest support these National Forest winter programs. Donations to support tours can be made through Discover Your Northwest.

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